GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:551
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2005
AMOUNT SPENT ON HAJ PILGRIMS
Athawale Shri Ramdas

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on Haj pilgrims during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Union Government proposes to enhance this amount;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) The amount spent on Haj pilgrims to subsidize airfare of Haj pilgrims going through Haj Committee of India during the last three years is as follows-

Year	Amount (Rs. In Crores) (Appx.)
2003	172.00
2004	160.70
2005	179.66

The amount spent for various Haj arrangements in Jeddah, Makkah, Madinah, Mina & Arafat, including dispensaries, medicines, travel expenses, salaries and accommodation of doctors, para-medical staff & other deputationists and pitching of tents are as follows:

Year	Amount (Rs.in Crores)
2003	12.12
2004	12.59
2005	14.82

(b), (c) & (d) There is likely to be some increase on account of inflation and increase in number of pilgrims.